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The Hongkong Telegraph

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.

Barometer 30.12.

(ESTABLISHED 1881)

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December 4, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 63 3 p.m. 64
Humidity 71 70

December 4, 1916. Temperature 6 a.m. 51 3 p.m. 69
Humidity 54 51

7820 日十二月十

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1917.

二拜禮 號四月二十英港香

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS
\$36 PER ANNUM.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE FIGHTING IN THE WEST.

Good Work by London Troops.

London, December 3.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, states:—
We repulsed attacks after sharp fighting in the neighbourhood of Moeuvres. Londoners captured twelve machine guns and a number of prisoners in the neighbourhood of Bourlon. There is considerable reciprocal artillery firing on the southern battle-front.

The Artillery Struggle.

London, December 3.
A French communique states that the artillery struggle was fairly violent during the night between Miette and the Aisne and east of Rheims on the right bank of the Meuse.

A Notable British Success.

London, December 3.
Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters, writing on December 3, states:—It looks as if the German effort around Cambrai had temporarily spent itself, although the enemy was showing aggressive activity this morning round the region of La Vacquerie. The salient about Masnières, from which we have withdrawn, is untenable for the enemy, except for the deep catcombs with which it is believed to be honeycombed. The recent attack was one of the greatest, if not actually the greatest, the Germans ever launched on the Western Front, the only possible claimant to equal magnitude being the second Battle of Ypres. I compute that twenty Divisions were employed against us, which, even at the diminished strength of the present German Divisions, would represent 20,000 infantry. Our troops this morning were cheerful at the situation, and think the results of the great German offensive up to the present constitute a notable British success. If the sum total of Germany's losses on the field will win the war for us, then we have taken a substantial step in this direction during the past four days.

Germans Claim 6,000 Prisoners.

London, December 3.
A German wireless official message states:—We beat off yesterday strong English attacks to the north of Passchendaele. Firing increased in violence in the evening. We repulsed an attack between Inchy and Bourlon. Since Friday we have taken 6,000 prisoners and also one hundred guns.

ITALY'S FINE RESISTANCE.

A Truce in the Big Battle.

London, December 3.
Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters in Italy telegraphs on December 2 that for the moment there seems to be a truce in the battle between the Brenia and the Piave, the reason being that the Austro-Germans are forced to pause for breath after many days of unsuccessful and costly attacks. The interlude of calm, however, must not deceive us. Heavier and still heavier enemy attacks must be expected. The Germans and Austrians have profited by the fine and dry weather of the last ten days to bring up reinforcements of artillery, and constantly the Italian airmen are locating new enemy battery positions, which come under the fire of the Italian guns. Before the French or British had fired a shot the advance had been brought to a stand. The weather is already bitterly cold and the endurance of the troops fighting in the mountains is subjected to a severe test, after the well-organized comfort of France, even in the war zone. A few days in Italy brings home to one what the Italians have had to endure since they entered the war. Only by the utmost economy can supplies and fuel be made to fill the passing days' needs. In winter food is sufficient, but careful husbandry is necessary. Nevertheless, neither the cold, nor rationing, nor military misfortune, has availed to damp the resolution of the Italian people and they face with entire calm the military and economic problems of the coming year.

Prolonged Artillery Actions.

London, December 3.
An Italian official message states:—There were intense and prolonged artillery actions in the Pasubio and Melleite regions and also north of Mount Grappa.

FUTURE OF ZIONISM.

The British Government Thanked.

London, December 3.
Jewish mass meetings in London passed a resolution of gratitude to the Government for its declaration in favour of the establishment of Palestine as the home of the Jewish people. The meeting was further noteworthy as it was the first great public expression of the rapprochement between the Arab, Armenian and Jewish communities. Many Arab and Armenian notabilities swelled the Jewish audience. Lord Rothschild presided at the principal meeting and read letters of sympathy from the principal statesmen. Lord Robert Cecil said:—"In supporting Zionism in this country, we are merely carrying out its traditional policy of upholding the supremacy of law and liberty. It was because the lawless invasion of Belgium was felt by the true instincts of British people to be an attack upon the principle of law that they felt then and now that until that outrage was expiated it would be impossible even to think of talking of terms of peace."

CANADA'S GREAT VICTORY LOAN.

London, December 3.
Reuter's correspondent at Ottawa states that Canada's Victory Loan of one hundred and fifty million dollars has been more than doubly subscribed. Commenting thereon, Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance, said:—"The overwhelming success of the Victory Loan is a great national triumph for the Canadian people. While it will be a week or more before the final returns are known, I should not be surprised if the aggregate cash subscriptions amount to three hundred and fifty millions from half a million subscribers. Canada has certainly gone over the top. On an average one in every three families in Canada subscribed bonds. Once again the Canadian people have proclaimed to the world their essential unity of purpose and their determination to persevere until a final and conclusive victory is attained."

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIA.

Provisional Government Reappears on the Scene.

London, December 3.
A message from Petrograd says the ex-Provisional Government, of which nothing has been heard since it was overthrown, reappeared on the scene yesterday, issuing a manifesto addressed to the population, stating that they are the only legal authority in Russia and that the decrees of the Bolsheviks should be disobeyed; condemning the action of the Bolsheviks in attempting to conclude a separate peace; and decreeing the convening of the Constituent Assembly at Petrograd on December 12 as the only chance of the salvation of Russia. Papers which printed the manifesto have been suppressed. The *Daily Chronicle* learns from Petrograd that the Red Guards have occupied the offices of eight newspapers which printed the Manifesto, arrested several members of the staffs and confiscated the plant of the *Novoe Vremya*.

No Annexations.

London, December 3.
A Petrograd message says M. Trotsky, replying to Count Osernin's acceptance of the armistice offer, declared for the first time since the negotiations have been opened that they must be based on the principle of no annexations or indemnities.

A Move Against the Staff Headquarters.

London, December 3.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, it is stated that the Military Revolutionary Committee has sent a force composed of the reserves of famous Guards regiments and several machine-gun detachments against the General Staff Headquarters.

Interned Russian Appointed Ambassador.

London, December 3.
The *Daily News* correspondent at Petrograd, telegraphing on December 1, says that M. Trotsky has appointed M. Tchicherin, one of the Russians interned in England, as Russian Ambassador to London. It was on account of Tchicherin and another that M. Trotsky ordered that no Britishers were to leave Russia.

General Ludendorff on an Armistice.

London, December 3.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, General Ludendorff, in the course of a conversation with a representative of a Vienna newspaper, said that the war would not end in a draw but in favour of the Central Powers. Regarding the Russian armistice, he said there must be security that the Government possesses the power to enforce the results of the negotiations. A general armistice would be difficult, as submarine activity would have to be interrupted so that the Entente could improve its positions while supplies reached the Central Powers. An armistice must, therefore, be short, otherwise the military situation would suffer. "Modern war is war of the peoples and not of armies. War now terminates with the defeat of the enemy people. There are no decisive battles now, as formerly; they merely have an indirect influence on the whole system which decays and collapses."

Local Armistices Agreed To.

London, December 3.
A German wireless official message states that several Russian divisions have agreed to local armistices. The Russian Army between the Pripiet and the south of Lipa and several General Commands have decided on a truce while the negotiations are proceeding. The Russian deputation to arrange for a general armistice has arrived at Prince Leopold of Bavaria's Command.

Refusal to Recognise Maximalists.

London, December 3.
All the representatives of the Russian Government in Britain have refused to recognise the Maximalists, but are carrying on the work until a duly elected Russian Government is formed.

THE EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN.

Splendid Captures of Prisoners.

London, December 3.
Reuter's correspondent at Cairo telegraphing on the evening of November 30, says:—Eleven officers and 457 men have been captured during the last twenty-four hours. On the morning of December 1, the Australians captured a further two hundred, making the total number of prisoners since the commencement 10,800, of which 470 are officers.

LORD LANSDOWNE'S LETTER.

London, December 3.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law refused a Secret Session to discuss Lord Lansdowne's letter. After several questions, some of which were frivolous, regarding the letter and its relation to recent Regulations regarding peace leaflets had been formally answered, the subject dropped.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLE NEAR CAMBRAI.

British Aviators Busy.

London, December 3.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, says: Despite the clouds and mist on Saturday our aeroplanes made several successful reconnaissances of the areas near the battlefield. Sixty bombs were dropped and many machine gun rounds were fired at the enemy's infantry on the road. Bombs were dropped at night on Roulers station.

British Abandon a Salient.

London, December 3.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The Rifle, North Country and Home Counties battalions this morning captured some fortified buildings and strong points on the main ridge northward of Passchendaele. They took prisoners. We withdrew unmolested last night from the sharp salient formed by Masnières, which the enemy was still shelling this morning. Ten hostile attacks on this front during the last twenty-four hours were completely repulsed. During the fighting we occupied it and around Gonnelieu. We broke up attacks in the neighbourhood of La Vacquerie and Bourlon. Our artillery successfully engaged concentrations of infantry in the vicinity of Moeuvres.

A French communique states: There is an artillery duel in various sectors.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLE NEAR CAMBRAI.

Three Hundred Germans Captured.

London, December 3.
Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters says:—The enemy occupied and somewhat destroyed a stretch of railway near Gouzeaucourt before being driven back. The Guardsmen supported by dismounted cavalry and Tanks cleared the Huns from Gouzeaucourt. We regained Gonnelieu, capturing 300 Germans and forty machine guns. The heaviest enemy losses were apparently experienced around Masnières, owing to the persistent attempt to advance. By far the greatest proportion of guns which had to be left during the first retirement were retaken and as previously mentioned most of the others were blown up or disabled.

Fifteen German Attacks.

London, December 2.
Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters telegraphed last evening:—The Germans yesterday delivered fifteen attacks against our La Vacquerie positions. Reliable informants state that we killed more Germans opposite here within twelve hours than at any spot in the same time throughout the war. We also advanced our line south of Vailiers and Goudieu, but last night threw back our line slightly in the region of Masnières for the purpose of strengthening the defences. We took nearly 500 prisoners. We delivered a moonlight attack in the Passchendaele region last night, beginning at 1.15. After sharp fighting we gained two strong positions, enabling us to complete the scope of our observation hereabout.

ATTACK ON ITALIAN COAST.

Rome, December 3.
An official message states: Fourteen enemy light craft attacked the coast on November 28, but were counter-attacked by armoured trains and quickly withdrew, managing to evade the torpedo boats which were despatched towards Pola to intercept them. An armoured train hit an enemy ship.

AMERICAN TELEGRAMS.

The following are from the *Manila Daily Bulletin*:—
Japan and Russia.

Washington, November 28.—A special cablegram to Japanese commercial interests in New York states that the Tokyo Government has privately determined to send armies to Harbin and to Vladivostok, avowedly for the purpose of protecting Japanese citizens at those places.

This decision is generally construed as meaning that Japan is carrying out the terms of her agreement with the United States, some of the features of which have been made public recently, but officials here have thus far refused to comment upon the subject.

Workers Mustn't Talk.—Washington, November 22.—The Administration has renewed its orders to Army and Navy workers not to talk regarding their work.

Milk Control.—Washington, November 22.—The Federal Food Commission has decided upon a plan to control the milk supply of the country. According to an announcement, sectional boards will be named to control the milk supply in their regions.

Life Sentence Imposed.—Montreal, November 22.—Charles Monette, charged with dynamiting the home of the proprietor of the *Montreal Star*, Lord Athelstone, has been sentenced to life imprisonment. Lord Athelstone's home was dynamited because of the pro-conscription attitude taken by the paper.

Treasury Certificates Issued.—Washington, November 22.—Mr. McAdoo has decided to issue Treasury certificates for unlimited amounts, to be redeemed upon the final payment of income taxes.

Preaches Mutual Trust.—Portland, Oregon, November 24.—In a statement to the local press, Mochizuki, a member of the Japanese parliamentary mission to the United States, who recently asserted that Japan was ready to guarantee the independence of the Philippines when this country was prepared to grant it, suggests that the United States and Japan should join together to guarantee the peace of the Pacific. He says he believes the two countries should agree not to fortify further their possessions in the Pacific which include practically all Pacific lands from the German islands to Guam and the Philippines. "Why should there be a race to see who can build

floating fortresses fastest when there is no conflict geographically, commercially and politically?" he concludes.

Under-Close Guard.—New York, November 24.—The German subjects interned in the United States and at present in camps throughout the country are closely guarded at all times. Private guards are now patrolling the pier, having relieved the Army from this duty and from the care of transportation lines throughout the country.

Sugar Seized.—New York, November 24.—The United States authorities, acting under instructions from the Federal Food Commission, have seized 10,000 pounds of sugar destined for Russian ports.

A Hindu Conspirator.—San Francisco, November 25.—Sakuma Chatterji, the Hindu conspirator who was sent on a secret mission to the Orient for the purpose of stirring up a revolt in India, was the first witness for the prosecution in the conspiracy trial now in progress here. In response to questions put him by the District Attorney the witness gave an account of a trip which he made from San Francisco to Bangkok, Siam, in the interests of the plot.

He stated that two letters which were given him for delivery to German consular agents in the East he was compelled to swallow in order to avoid their capture. He also declared that he was given a letter for Manila but could not arrange to meet the German Consul there or at Swatow. From the line of questioning which the prosecution has adopted in the present case it is evident that an attempt is being made to connect various of the German Consuls in the Orient with the conspiracy.

Must Decline Decorations.—Washington, November 25.—The Government has instructed the commanders of the two American destroyers which sank German submarines to decline British decorations which have been offered them. It is pointed out, in explanation of the instructions, that the laws of the United States do not permit American Army and Navy officers to accept foreign decorations.

Launches First Vessel.—Washington, November 28.—The American Shipping Board announced the first launching of a vessel constructed under its direction.

The Loss of the Chauncey.—A cablegram received yesterday at the office of the Governor General from the Bureau of Information Affairs corrects the first official message which declared

DONT FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Hongkong University.—Bazaar and Entertainment in aid of Tientsin Flood Relief Fund; 2.30 to 11 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Hongkong University.—Bazaar and Entertainment in aid of Tientsin Flood Relief Fund; 2.30 to 11 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10.

Helen May Institute.—Piano Recital by Mr. Denman Fuller; 5.30 p.m.
City Hall.—Police Reserve Boxing Tournament, 8 p.m.

that the destroyer Chauncey was torpedoed, and confirms the press cables which attributed the sinking to a collision.

Washington, November 24.—Lieutenant Commander Walter E. Reno, Lieutenant Charles G. Wedderburn, Ensign Skinner and 18 enlisted men were drowned when the destroyer Chauncey was sunk by a collision in the Atlantic. Lieutenant Commander Reno, who commanded the ill-fated craft, entered the Naval Academy at Annapolis May 31, 1901, and graduated in the class 1905. He left here a full lieutenant and was afterwards made a lieutenant commander. He and his charming wife were well known in Manila where they had many warm friends. Mr. Reno left Manila on the August transport for the homeland.

Lieutenant Charles F. Wedderburn was graduated from the Naval Academy June 5, 1915, and entered the service on that date as an ensign. He is also well and popularly known in the islands. Ensign Skinner is thought to be one of the petty officers recently promoted to the rank of ensign.

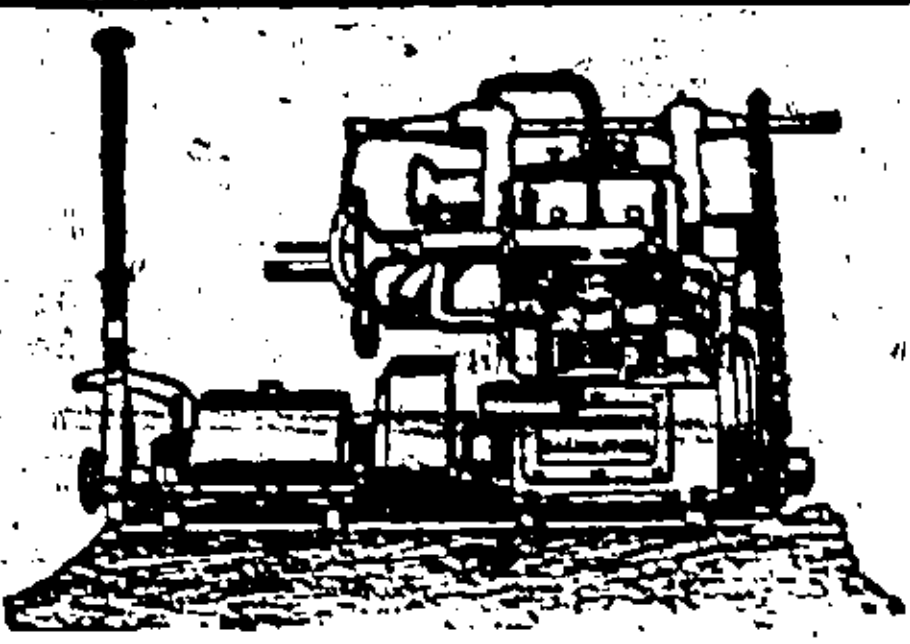
Norwegian Steamer Founders.—Honolulu, November 24.—A wireless message received here states that the Norwegian steamer Thor has foundered in a storm in the Pacific, and that one boat with 15 passengers has been picked up. Another boat may be afloat, steering toward this port, the message states, and a rescue ship has already been dispatched.

Skipper's Arrest Ordered.—San Francisco, November 24.—Four affidavits have been sworn out against Captain Gransow, commander of the American schooner Chubbuck, which has been lost on French Frigate Shoals, near the Fiji Islands. Naval authorities have cabled to San Francisco for the arrest of Captain Gransow. While no specific charges are mentioned in the cable, it is assumed that Captain Gransow will be arrested and held for investigation with regard to his knowledge of the German raiders reported in the South Pacific some months ago, and which are still at large.

Improved Salvarsan.—Philadelphia, November 22.—Dr. Flexner of the Rockefeller Foundation has announced that he has improved upon Salvarsan, the formula for which has been closely guarded by the German manufacturers of the preparation. The improved Salvarsan, Dr. Flexner declares, will be furnished free for American physicians.

Medal For The Navy.—Washington, November 27.—A special medal has been decided upon for members of the Navy who distinguish themselves in fighting the submarines. Mr. Daniels has completed preliminary arrangements for the establishment of the medal. Members of the United States sea forces are forced to refuse British decorations.

NOTICES.



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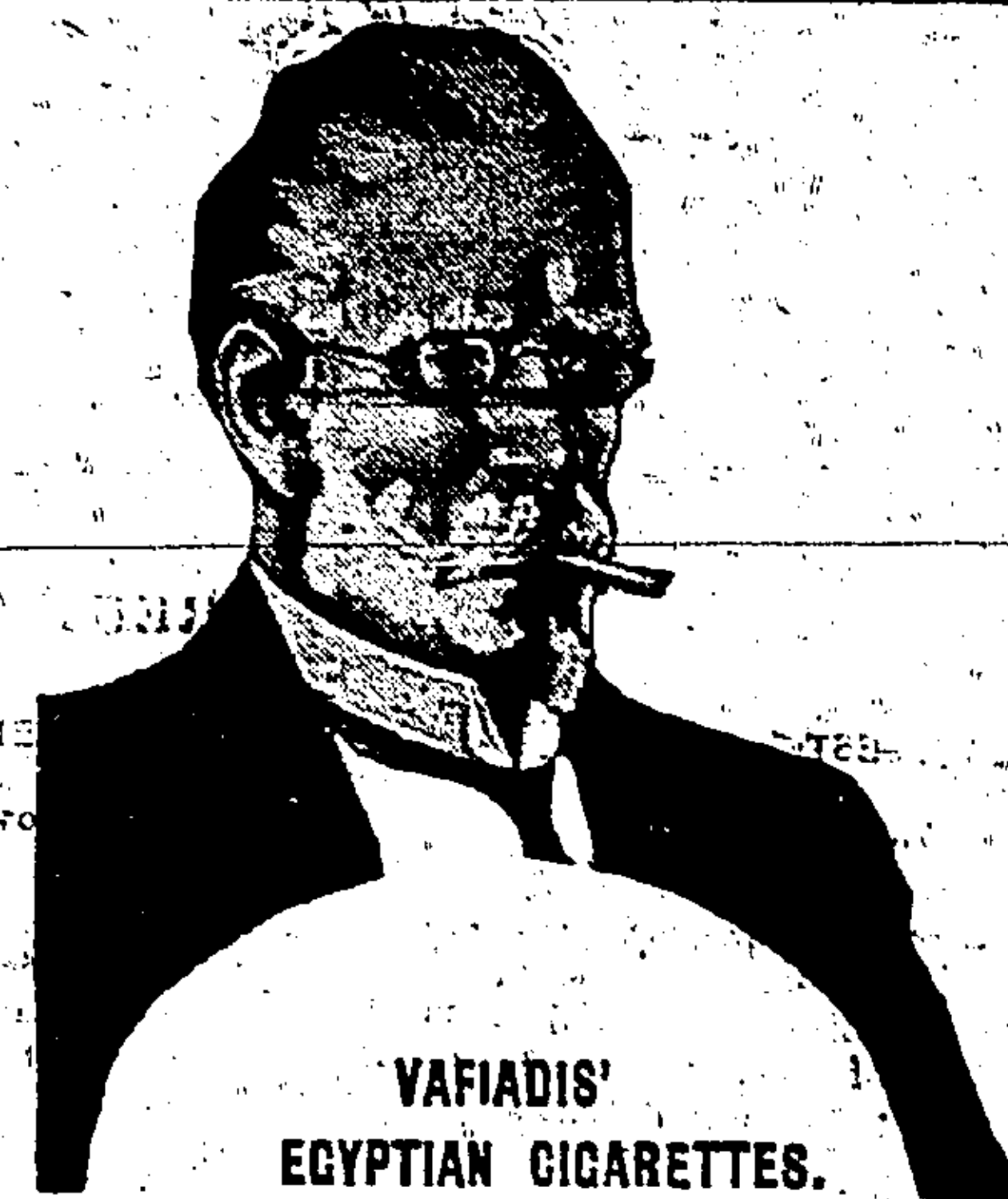
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Club Size	10	.40
Non Plus Ultra	100	3.60
"	50	1.85
"	20	.75
Superfine	100	2.40
"	50	1.20

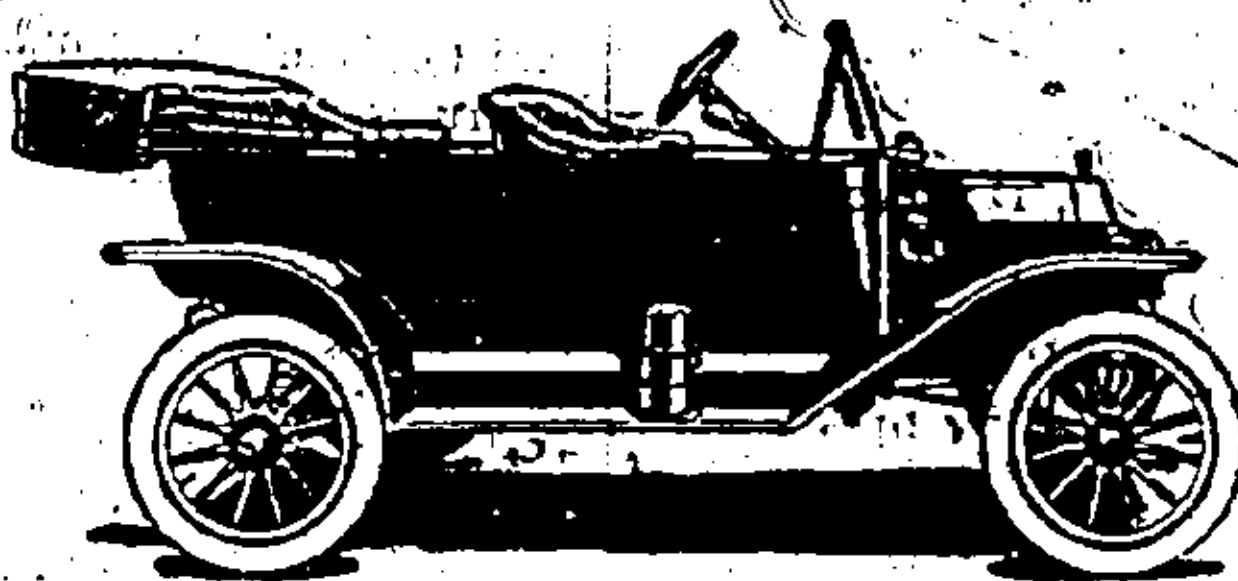
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GENERAL NEWS.

A West Indian Hurricane.
A hurricane struck Cayman Islands (West Indies) on September 24, and plantations were destroyed and several vessels driven ashore. A vessel has arrived at Kingston for food for the inhabitants of the islands.

A Busy Chinese Politician.
Liang Shih-yi, says a Tokyo message, has been receiving a very cordial reception from the business interests here. He has a long programme of private receptions up to December 21 without a single day without an appointment in some form.

Farmer Fined \$603.
A Berkshire farmer, John Erentice, of Swinton quarter, was fined \$603 at Duns Sheriff Court for having had on his farm on August 31, 603 sheep which had not been dipped in accordance with the regulations, and having made a false declaration that they had been so dipped. He pleaded "Guilty," and was fined 10s. in the case of each animal for each offence.

A Japanese Philanthropist.
After consultation with Admiral Count Katsuyama and his wife, Mr. Akatsuka Katsuyama, Mr. Tokuma Akaboshi, a well-known Tokyo business man, has decided to set apart Y. 1,000,000 from the proceeds of the recent sale of his art treasures (Y. 5,099,500) to establish an independent educational fund, and to make donations to deserving educational bodies. Prizes to inventors are to be given out of the interest on the fund.

Death of a Former M.P.
Mr. George Birnie Eastmont, Liberal M.P. for South Aberdeen from 1917, when he succeeded Mr. (now Lord) Bryce, till February of this year, when he resigned owing to ill-health, died on October 4 aged 57. The son of an Aberdeen merchant, Mr. Eastmont was educated at Aberdeen Grammar School, and began a business career at the age of 16. He took keen interest in local affairs, and was senior magistrate of his native city in 1905-6. He had been chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the National Sea Fisheries Protection Association since 1910.

A Prussian Matrimonial Agency.
The Saxon Province of Prussia has organised a new matrimonial agency. The authorities have come to the conclusion that there can be no more effective method of caring for the dependents of fallen soldiers than arranging for the remarriage of "young war widows." Moreover, two birds can be killed by one stone by marrying the war widows to disabled soldiers. Consequently, the authorities at Magdeburg are now busily collecting reports on war widows and reports on suitable soldier bridegrooms. The reports will be published, without names, in a periodical circulated in the hospitals, and the authorities will then arrange for further "mediation" by word of mouth or writing.

Diamond Cutting by Disabled Soldiers.
Mr. Bernard Oppenheimer, the diamond merchant, who recently opened a school at Brighton for the training in lapidary work of legless men discharged from the Army, has presented a diamond, cut and polished at the school, to Sir Arthur Pearson. The first diamond dressed at the school was presented to Mr. Hodge, the Pensions Minister. He proposed to give it to be replaid for under the Art Union principle in all of the new scheme which Sir Arthur Pearson has in hand for the benefit of the families of blinded soldiers who married after their discharge. Mr. Oppenheimer, however, asked Mr. Hodge to keep the diamond as a memento of his visit to the school at Brighton, and said he would be glad to give the second diamond worked at the school to Sir Arthur Pearson. This diamond has been set in an oak pedestal frame, with an inscription relating its history. The work requires great care and skill. Yet the most expert diamond-cutter in the school was formerly a dock labourer who has been about a month in training. The cutting of the diamond collection was done in Amsterdam and took nine months to finish.

GENERAL NEWS.

Australia and The Metric System.
Mr. W. M. Hughes, the Prime Minister of Australia, recently stated that he favoured the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures and decimal coinage, but felt that it would be useless to make the change until Great Britain led the way.

A Kent Centenarian.
Mr. Charles Horton, the oldest inhabitant of Kent, has just celebrated his 103rd birthday. He was born at Linton, near Maidstone, and has resided for many years in the neighbouring rural parish of Otham. He enjoys fairly good health, and has never been in a railway train.

A Unique Gift for Soldiers.
A priest named Yama Saeki, of Kagawa Prefecture, has applied to the authorities in Tokyo for the transmission to the Allied soldiers in Europe of 13,875 old postage stamps collected and given to him by a sexagenarian woman named O-Hana, of Kyobashi Ward, Tokyo.

£177 for a Tailor Chest.
Some notable prices were recently paid for old furniture at the sale, by Messrs. Curtis and

Henson, of Mount Street, W.1, at St. Leonard's Hill, Windsor, of the contents of the residence of the late Sir Francis Tress Barry. For a tailor chest, the bidding for which started at £25, 189 guineas was paid by a London dealer. A very ordinary grandfather clock from the servants' hall realised £25 10s. A set of Louis XV. style chairs realised £48. All the modern furniture was eagerly competed for by the large London manufacturing houses.

Obituary.
The death is announced from Madrid of Admiral Montojo who commanded the Spanish squadron at Cavite (Philippines) during the Spanish-American war. Though quite outmatched by Admiral Dewey's squadron the gallant Spaniard behaved so as to earn the appreciation of the victors. The Battle of Manila took place on Sunday, May 1, 1898. The Spanish squadron of eleven ships, under Admiral Montojo, was attacked and destroyed by the American squadron of nine ships under Commodore (afterwards Admiral) Dewey. The Spaniards showed great bravery, but their death roll was over 400, and their squadron was a total loss.

Dealings in Cotton.
Our representative on the Manchester Royal Exchange says the Times of September 15, writes that the Control Board, at its meeting, yesterday, had under review a complete scheme for the reopening of the futures market. The scheme now awaits the approval of the Board of Trade, which is likely to be given next week. It is understood that, beginning with October 1, dealings in futures will be allowed, practically without drastic limitation, in all months from next January to next August. The basis will be Good Middling instead of Middling, a change which will facilitate business by modifying the disparity that so often exists between the present basis and the actual grade of cotton that a buyer wants. Tenders are not to be allowed. This prospective restriction is meeting with some criticism on the Exchange. It is said that it may encourage speculation, but it is explained that if this should be the effect the advantage will be with the bears rather than with the bulls—in other words, it will tend to depress rather than to raise prices.

NOTICES.

VICTOR RECORDS

THE
RECORDS OF QUALITY.

NOVEMBER SUPPLEMENT

JUST RECEIVED.

GIVE US A CALL AND MAKE

YOUR SELECTION.

MOUTRIE'S,

VICTOR AGENTS.



THE ONLY
EUROPEAN OPTICIAN
IN THE COLONY.

DOCTORS' PRESCRIPTIONS ACCURATELY FILLED.

N. LAZARUS,

OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
26, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

GENERAL NEWS.

Famous Runner Wounded.

Corpl. R. G. Walker, the South African runner, who went to France three months ago, has been wounded. The best sprinter of his day, Walker won the Olympic Championship at the Shepherd's Bush Stadium in 1908, and the British Championship in the following summer. Meux's Brewery in the Market, which is freehold and of about 24 acres, at the corner of Oxford-street and Tottenham Court-road, is to be sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank, and Rutley, in February. The site includes the Horse Shoe Hotel, shops and houses in Great Russell-street, a cinema theatre, and premises in New Oxford-street.

Guynemer's Victor Killed.

According to an Elberfeld telegram to the Cologne Gazette the airman who shot down the famous French aviator, Captain Guynemer, was Flight-Lieut. Wisemann, who himself has since been killed. In his last letter to his parents, in which he described how he brought down Captain Guynemer, he wrote, "Do not be anxious, as I can never have a more dangerous enemy."

Sale Of Hope Statuary.

The disposal of the remainder of the Hope heirlooms was continued at Deepdene, Dorking, when interest centred in the sale of the rest of the Roman and Greek statuary, and other marble. The highest price obtained was

UNCLAIMED TELEGRAMS.

Eastern Extension, Australasia & China Telegraph Co.

Chin Mean Din, 32, Winglok St. from Montreal.

Chut Hee, c/o Hong Thong Seng, from Batavia.

Eng Guan Guankee, from Penang.

Jackson, from London Sub.

Lowpaseck, from Saigon.

Marques Emilio, from Shanghai.

Oysin, 430, Connaught Road West from Penang.

Tranchung, from Saigon.

J. M. BECK, Superintendent.

Hongkong, Nov. 29, 1917.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company, Ltd.

Shinyick, from Kobe.

Sengmoh, Winglok Street, from Amoy.

Yungsheong, from Tokio.

Luncheong, from Kobe.

Gan House, c/o Nanyang Tobacco Company, 13, Racecourse, from Swatow.

Chanshinchow, 17, Third Floor, Old Billy Street, from Shanghai.

John Stewart, Passenger Dutch Steamer Oranje, from Shanghai.

T. KRING, Act. Superintendent.

Hongkong, Nov. 30, 1917.

£2,730 for Thorwaldsen's full-length figure of Jason, still considered his masterpiece. The bronze figure of the Borghese Gladiator fetched £710, and the bronze group of The Wrestlers, £525.

Prepaid Advertisements.

ONE CENT PER WORD

FOR EACH INSERTION.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—At the Peak. **HALF HOUSE.** Suitable for two bachelors. Partly furnished. Terms very moderate. Apply Box 1339 c/o Hongkong Telegraph.

TO BE LET.—A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon. **FOUR ROOMED-HOUSES** in Kowloon.

Apply to:—**HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,** Alexandra Buildings.

TO BE LET.—HOUSES on Shamien, CANTON. **OFFICES** in York Buildings.

Apply to:—**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.**

LOST.

LOST.—A long-haired black tom CAT, with white muzzle, underpart of neck, chest and paws. If found or seen, kindly inform W. Armstrong, 8, Stewart Terrace, No. 94 Peak.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

GEO. P. LAMMERT.

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER AND SURVEYOR.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY, the 6th December, 1917, commencing at 11 a.m. at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture comprising:—

Oak hatstand with bevelled mirror, tapestry covered drawing room suite, easy chairs, black-wood tables, teapots, flowers stands and stools, writing tables, vases, ornaments, pictures, lace curtains, carpets, rugs, etc., etc. Teak extension dining table and chairs, teak sideboards, dinner waggons, ice chest, dinner and dessert services, electroplate ware, cutlery, glass ware, etc., etc. Double and single brass and brass mounted iron bedsteads, and double wardrobes dressing tables, washstands, toilet crockery, etc., etc.

Also
2 Cinematograph Machines. On view from Wednesday, the 5th inst. Catalogue will be issued. Terms—Cash on delivery. **GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.**

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY, the 6th December, 1917, commencing at 11.30 a.m. at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

2 Sporting Rifles.
1 Fowling Piece.

Also,
Account Heather Day.
2 Stuffed Crocodiles.

On view from Wednesday, the 5th inst.

Terms—Cash.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

NOTICE.

WE have this day appointed **MR. HENRY ARMAND HENRIKSON** OASTRO Manager of our business at Hongkong and have authorised him to sign our Firm Name per procuration. Dated this 1st day of December, 1917.

CABVALHO & CO.

WANTED.

WANTED.—TWO ROOM and kitchenette FLAT in the down town or lower level districts, suitable for a bachelor. Please give price, location, and size of rooms with reply. Address: Box 1346 c/o Hongkong Telegraph.

POSITION WANTED as **NURSE** or **CHAMBERMAID** for the period of a journey to America, by a lady desirous of obtaining free passage from Hongkong to New York. Apply Box 1343 c/o Hongkong Telegraph.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—PIANO, upright, by Collard and Collard, made for the climate. Price \$350; a bargain. Apply Box 1347 c/o Hongkong Telegraph.

FOR SALE.—SIDE CAR in perfect condition. Price \$50. Apply Box No. 1348 c/o Hongkong Telegraph.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

The Management beg to announce that as from 1st December, 1917, the Hongkong Hotel Orchestra will play daily (Sundays excepted) as follows:—

IN THE MAIN LOUNGE.

From 11.30 A.M. to 1 P.M.

From 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.

IN THE GRILL ROOM.

From 8 P.M. to 10 P.M.

A series of **TEA DANCES** will be held during the Winter Months each **TUESDAY** and **WEDNESDAY** commencing on 11th December, 1917. Dancing 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.

Special **DINNER DANCES** will be held on **CHRISTMAS NIGHT, BOXING NIGHT** and **NEW YEAR'S EVE.**

J. H. LAGGART, Manager.

4% FRENCH LOAN

(Rente Perpetuelle 4%)

THE BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE begs to announce that they are prepared to receive and forward to Paris, free of commission and telegram charges, at the selling rate of T.T. on Paris, applications for the above Loan, which will shortly be opened to public subscription.

The list of applications will be **CLOSED 14 PARIS ON DECEMBER 16TH 1917**, and those intending to subscribe are invited to apply without delay.

Issue Price: **69.60%**

Full particulars will be supplied on application to the **BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE, 5, Chater Road.**

THE PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.

IT IS HEREBY notified that **MR. J. ORAM SHEPPARD** has been appointed Acting Agent of this Company at Hongkong effective from December, 1st 1917. It is also notified that the Headquarters of the General Agent for China and the Philippines will be transferred to Manila, P.I., as from December, 1st 1917.

R. C. MORTON, General Agent, Hongkong, 29th November, 1917.

WAI-KEE.

FLAC & SAILMAKER
No. 129, Des Voeux Road Central
Top Floor,
HONGKONG.
Telephone No. 1833

NOTICES.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

EXCLUSIVE NEW DESIGNS IN

BRITISH MADE SILK

MOTOR SCARVES.

SUITABLE FOR

LADIES OR GENTLEMEN.

NOW SHOWING

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SHAW'S

WOOL AND SILK MUFFLERS. LINED AND UNLINED CLOVES. DRESSING GOWNS. WAISTCOATS. FLANNEL PYJAMAS. PURE WOOL UNDERWEAR. ETC., ETC.

J. T. SHAW

Tailor and Outfitter

NEXT DOOR TO THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

IZAL IZAL



THE
UNRIVALLED DISINFECTANT

is the result of years of experiment and scientific research. The safest and most economical of efficient disinfectants—mixes equally well with salt, brackish and fresh water.

ONE GALLON IZAL MAKES 400 GALLONS EFFICIENT DISINFECTING FLUID

WHOLESALE AGENTS—

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NOTICES.

THE HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD., Honorary Secretaries & Treasurers.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1917

NOTICES.

CAST IRON RAINWATER PIPES AND FITTINGS.
FRANK SMITH & CO.
4, DES VOEUX ROAD, CENTRAL.
TEL. 2090. HONGKONG.

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LONDON DIRECTORY.

(Published Annually)

Enables traders throughout the World to communicate direct with English

MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS in each class of goods. Besides being complete commercial guide to London and its suburbs, the directory contains lists of

EXPORT MERCHANTS with the Goods they ship, and the Colonies and Foreign Markets they supply.

STEAMSHIP LINES arranged under the Ports to which they sail and indicating the approximate sailings.

PROVINCIAL TRADE NOTICES of leading Manufacturers, Merchants, etc. in the principal provincial towns and industrial centres of the United Kingdom.

A copy of the current edition will be forwarded freight paid, on receipt of Postal Order for 25s.

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Do You Suffer from any SKIN OR BLOOD DISEASE

such as Eczema, Scabies, Itch, Ringworm, Boils, Pimples, Sores of any kind, Piles, Blood Poison, Rheumatism, Gout, etc. If you do not waste your time and money on useless lotions and many ointments which cannot get below the surface of the skin. What you want, and what you must have to be permanently cured, is a medicine that will thoroughly free the blood of the poisonous matter which alone is the true cause of all your suffering. Clarke's Blood Mixture is just such a medicine. It is composed of ingredients which quickly attack, overcome, and expel from the blood all impurities (from whatever cause arising), and by restoring it clean and pure, can be relied on to effect a complete and lasting cure.

THE TRUE VALUE OF Clarke's Blood Mixture is certified by a most remarkable collection of unqualified testimonials from grateful patients of all classes—patients who have been cured after being given up as incurable—patients who have been cured after trying many other treatments without success. See pain-killing bottles.

Clarke's Blood Mixture is pleasant to take and guaranteed harmless to the most delicate constitution of either sex. Official Analysts and Chemists.

Clarke's Blood Mixture
WILL CURE YOU PERMANENTLY.



WATSON'S DRY GINGER-ALE

FRAGRANT. AROMATIC. DRY.

"Dryness" is a feature which has helped to give this drink the popularity it so well deserves.

Pints \$1.20 Per Doz.
Splits 70 Cts. ..

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,
FRATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.
Tel. 436.

Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

BIRTH.

CLEMENT SMITH.—Oct. 12, at Kirby House, Hungerford, wife of Lieut-Col. Hubert Clement Smith, D.S.O. Royal Engineers, daughter.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1917.

THE STRUGGLE IN THE WEST.

The telegrams of the past few days, with reference to the fighting on the Western Front, bear ample testimony to the fact that the struggle has been of late more acute than for a considerable time past. It was not to be expected that the enemy would appear to be indifferent to such a striking manifestation of superiority as was shown by the British in their brilliant offensive move which was so successfully carried out in the vicinity of St. Quentin on the 30th ultimo. The totally new tactics employed which followed upon a piece of strategy that is practically unequalled in the whole course of the war, so completely took the Germans by surprise that they had to yield no less than two hundred square miles of territory before they were in a position to hold up the British onrush and to retaliate. Aided by reinforcements, the enemy has now made a desperate effort to retrieve his loss, and, judging by the news to hand, a very fierce struggle has ensued, the attacks and counter-attacks on both sides meeting with varying fortunes.

It is clear, however, that the enemy has unquestionably been dealt the heavier blow, despite the large body of troops he had engaged in the operations. Realising that to be successful in the effort he had to make to oust the British from the positions they had just won, the enemy attempted what is described as an "encircling counter-attack." He appears to have brought together a large body of troops for the purpose, and to have made a desperate attempt to achieve his ambitious project. The enemy "advanced in masses," we read, and, as usual, made some headway at first. Owing, however, to the magnificent defence and stubborn resistance of our troops, the enemy's object was completely defeated. At certain points the Germans were temporarily successful, but the subsequent movements of our troops resulted in the complete collapse of the enemy's encircling movement. The Germans were equally unsuccessful at other points where they also counter-attacked in force. South of "Crevecoeur" the enemy appears to have effected his one and only heavy blow, for we read that there "he forced his way into our lines on a considerable front, capturing a number of prisoners and reaching our gun positions in places." In a counter-attack our reserves recaptured a great part of the ground and re-took Gonnelle and the St. Quentin spur, along with several hundred prisoners.

From these statements and others of a similar nature contained in the reports by Sir Douglas Haig and from Reuters' correspondent at Headquarters, it is apparent that the struggle was fierce and tense, and that heavy blows were both received and given. Soon we may expect to know exactly how the line now is, and we think that it will be found that, despite all the enemy has attempted to do during the past few days, we are still in close proximity to Cambrai and that we have lost very little of the large tract of territory which our troops so gallantly won in their last splendid attack on a grand scale. Meantime, it is pleasant to read that present reports show that the enemy was not only completely repulsed but that the total number of our prisoners for last month is now definitely ascertained to have been 11,551, including 214 officers. We also took 138 guns, including 40 of heavy calibre, 302 machine guns and 64 trench mortars, together with quantities of engineering stores and ammunition material—all of which goes to illustrate, most strikingly the very substantial character of the work accomplished. It is quite obvious that we have very good reasons for feeling elated at what has taken place and that we may look forward hopefully towards the events of the immediate future.

Service Pay.

It is a matter for deep satisfaction that the pay of the local troops and naval men has been placed on a more satisfactory basis than has hitherto prevailed. Yesterday we were able to give the details of the new arrangement and from the particulars we gave it will have been noted that a very substantial proportion of the men's pay will in future be calculated on a two-shilling dollar. That is an accession which will, we feel sure, be deeply appreciated by those concerned. We have not yet had an opportunity of ascertaining how the men regard the new scheme or precisely what difference it will make to their pay, for the question is somewhat intricate in character. But it is apparent, on the face of it, that a fixed dollar at a much lower rate than the prevailing exchange will be far and away better for the men than to be placed in a position which means less pay the higher the dollar goes. The whole system of Service pay depending on the fluctuation of exchange is fundamentally wrong, and we therefore welcome the new scheme, whereby a man will in future be able to count on an assured weekly amount at a favourable dollar rate.

A Teutonic Boast.
It is not often that we have a direct statement from General von Ludendorff, the mighty man who is credited with being the "All Highest's" closest adviser. Ludendorff has, despite his exalted position, been all along somewhat of a mystery to most people. He has kept very much in the background, and all that has been known of him has been decidedly vague. Now, however, we have a direct and, apparently, an emphatic statement from him. He says that the war will not end in a draw but in favour of the Central Powers. He does not say how this is to be accomplished, nor is he reported to have admitted that at present the situation by no means favours his belief but rather gives the lie direct to it. On none of the many fronts can it be said that Germany is really in the ascendant. Not an acre of British soil is in the hands of the enemy, while Germany's colonies have one after the other been wrested from her. And is it not the case that America is at present preparing on a gigantic scale to throw in her weight against the Central Powers? No doubt the worthy Ludendorff is doing his best to keep up the spirits of the Teutons when he makes such a statement as is attributed to him. It appears to be a case of the wish being father to the thought, for no one knows better than those in command of the enemy that he is not winning and cannot possibly do so.

Russian Affairs.
That M. Lenin and his followers—the Bolsheviks, Maximalists or whatever they choose to call themselves—are by no means likely to have matters all their own way is evident from one of the Petrograd telegrams to hand. In it it is stated that the ex-Provisional Government "has re-appeared on the scene" and has issued a Manifesto to the effect that they are the legal authority in Russia and that the decrees of the Bolsheviks should be disobeyed. The attempt of the Bolsheviks to conclude a separate peace is also condemned. It is regrettable that the framers of the Manifesto were not in a position to support it, or at least to arouse the people to a sense of their responsibilities. That the Bolsheviks have the support of the soldiers is apparent from the fact that those newspapers which had the courage to publish the Manifesto have since been suppressed and their plant confiscated by the Red Guards. This vindication of the power wielded by the Bolsheviks does not necessarily mean that they will be able to conduct matters as they may think fit. The suggested armistice is not yet an accomplished fact, and the voice of the Russian nation has yet to be heard regarding this point. Neither von Ludendorff nor M. Trotsky appear to be at all certain of their ground, and the situation would seem to be one in which the unexpected is most likely to happen. Whatever takes place it is to be sincerely hoped that the Russian nation will not be so situated as to appear to be a traitor to the Allied cause.

DAY BY DAY.

FRIDAY BREAKFASTS WITH PLENTY DINING WITH POVERTY AND SUPS WITH INFAMY.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 58th birthday of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 11 1/8d. The closing rate will be found on Page 1.

Alice Memorial Hospital.
The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the Funds of the Hospital:—Fruit and Vegetable Guild, \$100.

The Colony's Health.
During last week there were five non-fatal cases of enteric fever notified and one fatal occurrence of diphtheria. One of the enteric sufferers was a Britisher, the rest being all Chinese.

Back Again.
A Chinese was charged before Mr. A. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, with returning from life banishment. Defendant pleaded guilty, and his Worship sent him to prison for a year.

Alleged Threatening Letter.
Before Mr. A. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, an elderly Chinese was charged with writing a threatening letter, demanding \$5,000. Mr. W. R. Hind defended, and the case was adjourned until Monday, bail being fixed in the sum of \$1,000.

Football Match.
In the 2nd Division of the Hongkong League the R. E. Reserves meet the 87th Co. R.G.A. to-morrow on the Navy Ground, Happy Valley. Kick-off 4 p.m. The R. E. Reserves will be represented by:—Salter, Simonds and Cruikshanks; Ouckow (Capt.), Waller and Webber; Millard, Baker, Darro, Todd and Reakes.

EX-TSAR ON REPUBLICS.

Amusing Talk With The Kaiser About Norway's Ruler.

Some amusing passages occur in the complete text of the Kaiser's correspondence in 1904, which is now being published in the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, and are communicated by wireless from Berlin (Admiralty, per Wireless Press). Regarding the Northern States which were then mentioned, and especially Denmark, the Kaiser wrote a letter to the Imperial Chancellor on July 25, in which he reported a conversation with Tsar, as follows:—

As regards Norway, the Tsar was very concerned. On learning that it was a matter of indifference to King Oscar of Sweden, who might be his neighbour, and that the King had no objection to a Republic he threw his hands above his head, exclaiming and that too! Well, that was the only thing that was lacking (colloquially this is the last straw), as if we have not already sufficient Republics in the world."

He was of the opinion that if no Swedish Prince were to go there and if Copenhagen were interested in the matter, that Prince Waldemar might be sent as he had some experience of life, had an elegant wife and beautiful, robust children. I agreed with him, but drew his attention to the fact that, according to private information from Copenhagen, the King of England possibly had already elected his son-in-law for the position.

The Tsar was very disagreeably surprised by this and pretended to know nothing about it and said he was of opinion that his cousin was absolutely unsuitable for the post as he had never been anywhere, and had no experience of life, and that he was indolent. Waldemar would be far more suitable as, through Karl (Prince Charles of Denmark now King Haakon of Norway) England by fair means or foul, would point its finger towards Norway, gain influence, begin intrigues, and, finally, by the occupation of Christiansand, would close the Skagerrack and shut us all out from the Baltic Sea, and thereby the German ports in the north would be done for (exclat).

PERRY SURVIVOR.

Arrival in Japan.

The welcome accorded a "State visitor" awaits W. H. Hardy, sole survivor of the Perry expedition to Japan, when he arrives in Yokohama to-morrow morning from Seattle aboard the Mexico Maru, says *The Japan Advertiser* of November 17. Mr. Hardy's status with the Perry party has not been definitely learned; he may have been a sailor or a naval officer commanding one of the vessels, but that has not counted in the preparations to welcome his return.

An audience with Their Majesty, the Emperor and Empress, at the Imperial Garden Party Tuesday, a trip to Kurihama where the Perry party landed, receptions, dinners and lecture appointments are only a few of the affairs planned for the American who, it is reported, is 81 years old. Mr. Hardy will arrive with a party of sixty Japanese tourists from Seattle, and it is thought that Japanese from America have been appointed to care for him during the stay here.

The visit to the scenes of his youth with the expedition of adventure was suggested by a Japanese school girl, a graduate of Aoyama Gakuin, who learned of the lone survivor of the Perry party and started correspondence in order to improve her English. In one of her letters she suggested that Mr. Hardy revisit Japan, and the present trip resulted.

The welcome to the man who aided in opening up Japan's resources and trade to the world sixty-six years ago, will start when the Mexico arrives in Yokohama harbour, Viscount Kaneko and other officers and members of the American-Japan Society, representatives from the American Embassy, Governor Ariyoshi of Kanagawa, Mayor Ando of Yokohama, Mr. Otani, President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, and other notables extending a greeting somewhat different from that received when the commodore landed at Kurihama more than half a century ago.

Viscount Kaneko and other notable will on Monday escort Mr. Hardy to Uraga and Kurihama where the people are preparing a welcome. Old pictures of the Perry landing have been gathered, the iron pot in which it is said the Americans cooked food and several Buddhist stools, which were used for chairs at the meeting of Commodore Perry and the Shogun at Kurihama where the memorial stone has been erected in commemoration of the exhibition. The natives are making many American flags.

Besides the mayors of the two towns, three old men, each older than 80, are on the Reception Committee to meet Mr. Hardy, when he visits Uraga and Kurihama. Two of them are ill, so only Mr. Shoyemon Kodzuchi will be on hand to extend a welcome to the native village after the prolonged absence. The old man remembers vividly the arrival of the Perry expedition, the fear of the natives; the friendliness of the foreigners and the final understanding between the two nations.

Message to Japanese People.
On landing in Japan, Captain Hardy, the sole survivor of the Perry Expedition to Japan sixty-four years ago, caused the following message to the Japanese people to be published:—

I wish to extend to all of the Japanese people my thanks for the most cordial greeting to me, an old sailor, who is almost at the top of his career and about to sail into the home port and cast anchor once and for all. I can truthfully say that there is nothing that has given me greater pleasure than to be able to stand once more on the beautiful shores of Japan after an absence of sixty-four years; and I wish to congratulate the Japanese nation for the great progress she has made, and may she progress in the future as she has in the sixty-four years that have passed. When I had the honour to stand on Japanese soil for the first time there was a little spark of love kindled in my heart and that has never ceased to grow as the years have rolled by; and as I have watched Japan grow as a father

THE MONEY MARKET.

Messrs. Montagu and Company's Report.

Messrs. Samuel Montagu and Co., in their report dated October 11, state:—

Gold.
The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue shows a decrease of \$169,810, as compared with last week's return.

Currency.
The Rome correspondent of the *Times* cabled on October 6:—"In order to prevent the hoarding of silver currency caused by the increased value of silver, the official *Gazette* publishes a decree saying the one or two lire (nominally 25 lire-\$1) silver pieces may be changed for paper money as from November 1 next to December 31. The silver currency will then cease to have a monetary value, and persons found in possession of silver pieces over 10 lire in value will be fined from 50 to 1,000 lire. The sterling amount, however, involved is not large. The United States Mint Report gave the total stock of silver Italian coin in 1913 as \$22,408,000 or \$0.64 per capita. This is, of course the nominal value.

It is reported that a Bill has been introduced in Denmark for the issue of small money made of iron.

Silver.
The tendency of prices has continued to be downward. There was a daily reduction of 1/16 until yesterday, and of 1/16 yesterday and to-day.

The market has been rather better supplied, and weakness of the Shanghai exchange has contributed to the dullness of the tone. Some of the silver which had been purchased for China has been resold, and there does not seem much immediate prospect of a recovery in that quarter.

The price of silver has fallen 1 1/2 pence in 14 working days from 55 pence to 44 1/2 pence. The rate of descent was about double the pace of the rise from 44 1/2 pence to 55 pence which took place in 25 working days.

We hear that thousands of tons of Mexican silver dollars have been imported into the United States in the few months prior to September, for melting and re-sale as bullion.

It will be observed from the following Indian Currency Returns that there is a substantial increase in the holding of gold:—

(In lakhs of rupees)
Sept. 22, Sept. 30, Oct. 7.

Notes in Circulation	10707	10843	11013
Reserve in silver coin & bullion	2857	2957	2950
Gold coin & bullion in India	1522	1585	1762
Gold out of India	180	153	153

The stock in Bombay on October 9th consisted of 3,560 bars, as compared with 3,200 bars on October 2nd.

The stock in Shanghai on the 6th Oct. 1917 consisted of about 24,100,000 ounces in sycee and 14,900,000 dollars, as compared with about 23,200,000 ounces in sycee and 14,900,000 dollars on the September 29th.

Quotations for bar silver p. oz. std.—October 5, 46 1/4 cash; October 6, 46 cash; October 8, 45 3/4 cash; October 9, 45 1/2 cash; October 10, 45 1/8 cash; October 11, 44 3/4 cash.

Average, 45 5/8.

No quotation fixed for forward delivery.
Bank Rate 5 per cent.
Bar Gold p. oz. std. 77/8.

The quotation to-day for cash delivery is 3d. below that fixed a week ago.

Japanese News Items.
Colonel Kanisige Tanaka, Military Attache to the Japanese Embassy in London, is reported to be somewhat better. Admiral Takeda, of the Japanese Navy, has left London for Petrograd.

Watches his son grow from a small boy to be a big and powerful man, so have I watched the Japanese nation grow to be one of the greatest and most powerful nations of the world.

CAPT. W. H. HARDY.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Dr. Horton, whose autobiography has just appeared to delight us, began his career with a legitimate grievance. Because he was a Nonconformist, he was debarred from holding a University appointment which he had won. Professor John Stuart Blackie, after hearing Mr. Horton in his early years as a preacher, called him "that young prophet Horton." When called to Hampstead, where he has been minister ever since, Dr. Horton had the gratification of seeing the names of H. H. Asquith and W. L. Courtney among the signatories urging him to come. Mr. Asquith spoke at his twenty-fifth anniversary at Hampstead.

The Orloff diamond which has disappeared from the Russian Imperial sceptre has, like the Koh-i-noor, a strange history, of which there are several versions: It once formed the eye of an idol in a temple near Trichinopoly, whence a French deserter from the garrison stole it, carried it to Malabar, and sold it to a ship's captain for 2,000 guineas. A Jew next bought it for 12,000 guineas, and sent it for sale to Catherine the Great. That sagacious lady would not buy, but left it to a courtier, from whom she received it as a gift. He was ennobled for his pains, and gave his name, Orloff, to the jewel.

Will the rapidly rising price of tea lead to a wide reintroduction of our various native substitutes, as was the case when tea came to us from China in sailing "clippers" and cost between six and ten shillings a pound? asks the *Manchester Guardian*. Our best British counterfeits, says a correspondent, was furnished by the leaves of the blackthorn, or sloe, and in those dark days an extensive manufacture of "sloe-leaf tea" was carried on in this country. Old "Dr." Bell, who lived a real hermit's life "under the greenwood tree" in Hainault Forest, told the present writer that he used at that time to make a comfortable income (for a hermit) by selling sloe-leaves at sixpence a pound to the grocers of East London. It was discovered, however, that this "sloe-tea" was chiefly employed for the purpose of adulteration, and the manufacture was suppressed. Professor Henslow—a son of the Cambridge savant who has received credit for making Darwin a naturalist instead of a clergyman—now living in retirement at Bournemouth, still has a sample of this "sloe-tea" in his possession.

It was pleasant to find some evidence, writes a correspondent to a Home paper, that Talbot Baines Reed is not yet forgotten by our boys. Alone of all writers, as far as I can recollect, he was able to produce an entrancing story out of the everyday events of a big public school—and how unimaginedly pedestrian they are!—simply by observing the object "as in itself it really is." To what desperate straits the average writer of "school stories" is driven in order to touch his theme with interest and animation! We all know his tricks: a head master who happens to be a dangerous Nihilist; his accomplices the French and German masters, both gentlemen with interesting pasts. Then we have that impeccable Captain of the School, of high birth, upon whose life the aforesaid Head entertains complicated designs. Meanwhile the boys pass the term in promiscuously raiding the neighbouring village and engaging themselves in determined combat with the "Townees," or, as a variation, tarring and feathering the local constabulary. And throughout all these "enthralling stories of school life" we are bound to observe the skill with which any reference to educational activities, either on the part of the masters or the boys, is firmly suppressed.

The City Temple is about to provide us with yet another innovation. Mr. H. B. Irving, the actor, has consented to speak at the Thursday noon service. Of course, actors have before now lectured at the City Temple, but this will be the first time for one to speak at the famous service founded by Dr. Parker, who had often J. L. Toole and other actors in his congregation.

A STRIKING FILM.

Another 'Big Attraction' at the Victoria.

Answer serial star of annual show, beauty and talent will be shown on a film here soon. She is Miss King, one of the youngest stars on the screen; she is only now eighteen. A remarkable story has been selected for the initial appearance of Miss King as a serial star. It is entitled "The Mystery of the Double Cross" and is based on an original story by Gilson Willett. Primarily this latest serial is a mystery story, although it is said to contain enough action and thrills to satisfy the most ambitious picture "fan." Combined with the mystery is an absorbing love story realistically acted by the golden haired heroine and the hero, Leon Barry. Mr. Barry, formerly leading man for Sarah Bernhardt, has been pronounced one of the most finished actors on the screen to-day.

Interest in the story is well sustained throughout the fifteen episodes. William Parke, whose work is distinguished by his careful attention to detail and "the big little things" demanded by motion picture audiences, directed this serial for the Pathe Company. Every episode has been produced up to the standard of the best feature productions and widespread comments have been made by the elaborate sets. Mr. Parke was Mansfield's stage director. He made the original production of "Peer Gynt." Miss King, although now only fifteen, has been on the stage since she was a child. Her first engagement was while a babe in arms, the age of seven she had an orphan child part with Maxine in "Her Own Way" and a hit both in London and New York. She has done the work of her career in "The Mystery of the Double Cross." Her wardrobe for this serial includes sixty-five gowns, and forty-three hats and thirty pairs of shoes. The high cost serials she says is more important to her than the high cost living.

"The Mystery of the Double Cross" will be screened at the Victoria Theatre on Friday the 7th inst.

TIENTSIN FLOODS.

Hong Kong University Union's Effort.

The students of the Hong Kong University have been busily engaged during the week-end in making arrangements for the two days, Thursday, the 6th inst. and Friday, the 7th inst., during which grand Bazaar and entertainments will be given in aid of the Fund of the Metropolitan Union Flood Relief Council.

The programme is extensive and a large number of tickets have already been sold. Each afternoon there will be a grand bazaar with side shows, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and again from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided and a band will add to the attractions. In the evening the Engineering and Scientific Laboratories will be open from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and there will also be a programme carried out in the Great Hall of the University. On Thursday evening, there will be a concert from 8 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. Many well-known local artists have promised to assist in the various items for this concert. After a short interval for refreshments, there will be a play given by the students of the University, entitled "The Good Natured Man." This will take about one hour and will be in English.

The performance on Friday evening will be in Cantonese and will be carried out by students of the University. They have selected "The Merchant of Venice," and it will be of interest to those who know Cantonese to follow this rendering.

The appeal of the students is made in the name of charity. They will do their utmost to give visitors good value for their money and they can promise plenty of fun during the afternoon and more serious entertainment in the evening.

"IRON FOR HONOUR."

German Who Gave Up Gold Trinkets to the State.

A description of the methods used in Germany to induce the people to surrender their gold jewellery, plate, and ornaments to the Government, to strengthen the country's gold reserves, is contained in the German Reichsbank's annual report. No statement is given of the actual amounts thus taken in, but it is explained that people who handed in gold articles received, in addition to payment for them in Germany's depreciated paper, at the appraised value of the trinkets, a certificate of having done so; and, "if the object has a minimum purchase value of one mark, an artistically designed memorial medal of iron." On the face of this medal was inscribed "In iron time, 1916," and on the reverse, the legend, "Gold I gave for defence, Iron I took for honour."

The Reichsbank report continues:— "This collection of gold jewellery and articles in gold was actively furthered by the Crown Princess placing herself as patroness at the head of the whole organisation. In the larger towns there have been established centres for the purchase of gold, and in the smaller towns and in the country districts auxiliary branches were opened. The valuation of the articles of jewellery handed in, the gold value of which is repaid, is entrusted to expert goldsmiths, so that the transaction is carried out fairly. Care is taken that the purchase of articles in gold should not take the form of a mere business transaction.

"For those selling watch-chains of gold there exist, as commemorative objects of the war, watch-chains of iron on payment of the cost price. Excluded from the purchase are wedding rings, unless they belong to people who have died. In order to prevent articles in gold with an inherent artistic or cultural value being melted down, the gold-purchasing centres are advised by an expert in objects of art.

"The gold-purchasing centres undertake besides the sale of jewels of high value (pearls, diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphires) from German owners to foreign neutral countries, as such sales also contribute to the strengthening of the gold reserve of the Imperial Bank by creating credit accounts abroad.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes under date of December 3 as follows:—

A military meeting was held in the Tachun's office yesterday at which the question of attacking Fukien was discussed.

Tang In, the chief of the Recruiting Bureaux, has despatched a number of envoys to investigate the number of Tong (the name of the gang) robbers and pirates on the three principal branches of the Pearl River, with a view to forming them into a big army.

The Tachun has offered \$1,000 reward for the capture of the bomb-thrower who attempted to assassinate him.

The Tachun invited journalists to dine in his Yamen and informed them to mention anything regarding himself freely. If he is wrong, he will be grateful for having had his mistakes pointed out to him and if the writers are misinformed he will only ask for a correction.

In reply to the two representatives sent by Dr. Sun to express his condolences in regard to the recent bomb affair, the Tachun said that as he has passed many showers of bullets a mere bomb is nothing to him, adding, "If any one wants my post let him come out openly and I would cede it to him."

Dr. Wu Ting-fang and his son are living in Dutch Folly and are protected by the Navy.

Gambling Constables.

At the Police Court this morning, nineteen Chinese, including two Chinese constables, were charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, with gambling. Sergeant Costrell, said one of the men was very violent and attempted to push him down the stairs. A fine of \$2 was imposed in each case.

"ALIEN ENEMY" FINED.

Princess's Visit to Aeroplane Works.

At Manchester on October 5, before Mr. Edgar Brierley, assistant magistrate, the Princess Ludwig Zu Lowenstein-Wertheim was charged with furnishing false particulars with regard to herself to the proprietor of the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, and with having as an alien enemy travelled more than five miles from her registered place of abode without a permit.

Mr. Heath, deputy town clerk, for the prosecution, said that the defendant was the daughter of the late Earl of Mexborough, and before her marriage, which took place in 1897, she was known as the Lady Ann Savile. By her marriage with a German prince she became a German subject. Her husband was killed in 1899 while fighting with the Spaniards against the Americans. When it became necessary for her to register under the Aliens Restriction Order the particulars she gave were:—"Surname Ludwig; Christian name, Ann; nationality, German; occupation, Princess Lowenstein-Wertheim; residence, 8, Upper Belgrave street, Piccadilly." She signed these particulars, "Ann Lowenstein-Wertheim."

She went to Manchester on September 27, and in filling up a registration form at the Victoria Hotel in that city described herself as "Evelyn Ellis, British nationality, of 11, Porchester-terrace, London." She did not give the other particulars which an alien enemy ought to give. All the particulars she gave were false, and there was no such place as 118, Porchester-terrace, London.

The defendant's purpose in visiting Manchester was to make some inquiries about aeroplanes, and in pursuance of arrangements made over the telephone, she called at a local aeroplane works. She asked the manager if they could make her an aeroplane capable of carrying four passengers, and with a 200 horse-power engine, the period of delivery to be an early one.

Counsel added that it was no offence to purchase an aeroplane, but it was suspicious that a German Princess should have adopted the conduct of the defendant in trying to acquire an aeroplane which would be capable of flying across the North Sea, with herself as a passenger, and any documentary evidence which she might be disposed to place before the enemy, and of carrying over the sea any escaped German officer who might be at large in this country.

Mr. Action, who represented the princess, said he admitted both offences.

Detective Rabbit, who arrested the defendant, said her explanation of her visit to the aeroplane works was that she wanted an aeroplane to help to do war work. Lord Mexborough, brother of the defendant, called on her behalf, said, his sister had a cross for flying. The only relationship she had with Germany was occasional visits paid to that country during the two years of the married life before the death of her husband. She had no German or anti-British leanings.

Mr. Action—You have known her to be throughout her life a thoroughly patriotic British person?

Lord Mexborough—Yes; we have always called her the "John Bull" of the family; she is most patriotic.

Questioned as to his sister's passion for flying, Lord Mexborough said she had done a great deal of it in various parts of the world. She had flown across the Channel from Sussex to Dieppe, and also in Egypt. She had made various flights since, and to his own knowledge in May, 1914, she formed the intention of giving an aeroplane to the Government. The intention, however, did not develop because of the outbreak of war. The family had always greatly disapproved of his sister's craze for flying and taken as airship an attitude against it as they could. That had led her to resort to subterfuge. He believed

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PIG IRON CASE.

An Interesting Development.

There was a rather interesting development this afternoon in the case in which two Chinese were charged with stealing 440 lbs. of pig iron, the property of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and which was found being loaded into a junk when iron was transferred from one hold of the s.s. Ecuador to another.

It will be remembered that when the case first came before Mr. J. B. Wood, Mr. M. E. Lo, who appeared for the accused, stated that the defence would be that the Chief Officer of the ship sold the iron to the men and that they had not stolen it at all.

His Worship asked Inspector Gordon this afternoon how the matter now stood, and the Inspector stated that as the result of enquiries the Pacific Mail Company wanted to withdraw the charge. The charge denied by the Chief Officer and the boy's son of the ship had been found out to have been given by them. Mr. Morton, the Agent of the Company, had seen the Hon. Captain Superintendent of Police on the matter. The Captain of the ship was placed in a very awkward position as the ship was due to leave to-day and he could not find another Chief Officer, and the second officer did not hold a first certificate. Otherwise the Police would not have let the matter drop. The Hon. O.S.P. came to the conclusion that it would be better to let the ship proceed, especially in these times, rather than hold the ship back because there was no Chief Officer to go with her. No less than fifty tons of such iron had been sold to these people. The Police were, therefore, unable to proceed with this charge.

Mr. Lo thought that as the men had been in custody for some days, his Worship should express some opinion about the matter of compensation.

After some discussion on this point, his Worship stated that he could not do so. Both defendants were then discharged.

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SAKURA BEER



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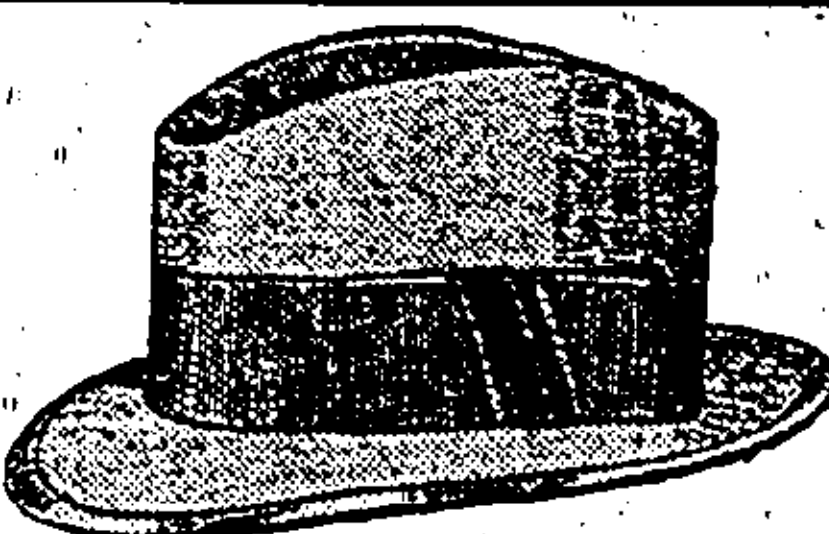
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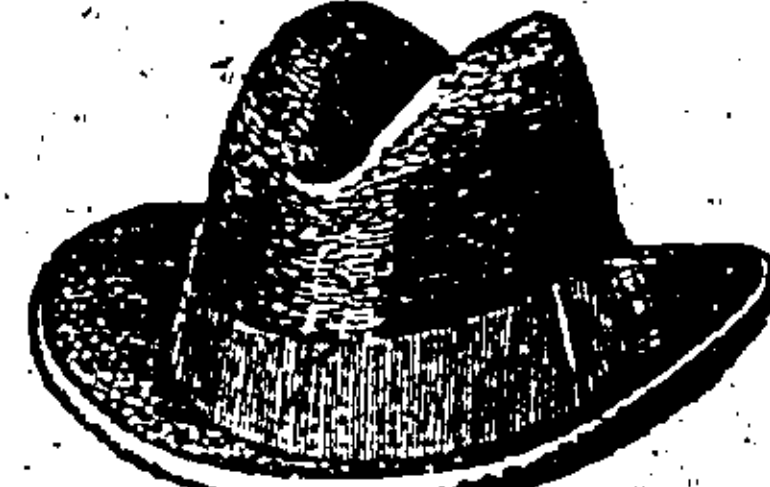
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Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tijilong	Moji	5th Dec.	8th Dec.	Kobe
Tibodas	Moji	8th Dec.	12th Dec.	Kobe
Tijmanoeck	Moji	20th Dec.	25th Dec.	Shanghai
Tijaroem	Amoy	29th Dec.	31st Dec.	Shanghai

The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia.

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FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOSHOW AND RETURN.

(Occupying 7 to 10 days.)

Steamships. Captain Leaving.

Haihong... J. W. Evans... FRI. 7th Dec., at noon.

Haitan... A. E. Hodgins... TUES. 11th Dec., at noon.

FOR SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

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INDO-CHINA STEAM
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration.)

For	Steamship	On
HAIPHONG	Walshing	Thurs. 6th Dec. at 7 a.m.
HAIPHONG	Taksang	Thurs. 6th Dec. at 7 a.m.
SHANGHAI	Wosang	Fri. 7th Dec. at d'light.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri. 7th Dec. at 3 p.m.
WEIHAIWEI & Chefoo	Chipsing	Tues. 11th Dec. at d'light.
MANILA	Loongsang	Fri. 14th Dec. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE.—Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta calling at Singapore and Penang.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed to Kobe and Moji, frequently calling at Shanghai.

These steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and carry a fully qualified Surgeon. This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war.

Particulars on application.

SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.

Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.

MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Saturday.

HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Swatow when convenient.

BORNEO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having up-to-date accommodation for passengers.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kuantan, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Labid Davao.

TIENTSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin calling at Weihaiwei and Chefoo.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

High Freight Rates at Aden.
Two Aden merchants, according to an official report to the U.S. Government, recently chartered a small steamer of about 300 tons carrying capacity to take a cargo of coffee and tobacco from Aden to Egypt, a distance of approximately 1,400 miles. The local agent states that 12,960 lbs. were paid for the charter. Considering that the steamer will take only 300 tons of the two commodities in question, the freight rate works out at approximately 43 cents per ton as against the normal rate of 3.89 cents per ton.

Further Restrictions in Shipments to Neutral.

The Kobe Chamber of Commerce is in receipt of the following dispatch from the Japanese Consul-General in London:— "With the object of more strictly preventing supplies of commodities being imported into enemy countries through neutral territory, an announcement has been made of the prohibition of the export of goods, except printed matter and travellers' luggage, from Great Britain to Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Holland, and also of a temporary suspension of the licences already granted for such exports to the countries mentioned in view of this new measure. It will become more difficult to obtain permission for transshipments to those destinations."—Japan Chronicle.

British Shipbuilding Development.

There has in the last month or two, says the September "Compendium," been a notable crop of new British shipbuilding projects, most of which are making progress towards realization. First, there is the new yard, High Pailton on the Wear, which Sir John Ellerman, a Messrs. William Gray and I are interested—names which sufficient guarantee of practical success. The lay out of this yard is now progress, and if expectations fulfilled it should be ready use next year. Then, on the 7, Lord Furness, having disposed his interest in the Irv's Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company at West Hartlepool, has in hand a big shipbuilding and engineering scheme, for which he has already secured the land. On the west coast an energetic attempt is being made to revive shipbuilding at Mersey, which river, in memory, used to turn out fine vessels, but latterly has ceased its operations to Birkenhead. The Mersey Shipbuilding Company has been formed, and has secured the site of an old shipyard which is now being adapted to modern conditions. Further south there is the projected yard at Cardiff, about which, however, nothing has been heard late. At Chepstow, the Standard Shipbuilding is now in full work and is producing tonnage at a satisfactory rate, while Newport, an influential synchro of London and Monmouthshire shipping men has made tereferences for a wharf on the Usk, near the town, where some 20,000 square yards of land are available, and here it is proposed to lay down a yard for the building of standard ships. Turning now to Scotland, we find several new projects already past the initial stage, apart from notable extensions which are in progress on the Clyde. At Dundee, the Caledonian Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, which has recently made considerable extensions to their work, has now leased 15 acres of land for laying out an entire new yard to be specially adapted to the building of large vessels up to 15,000 tons d.w., in fact, the work in connection with this establishment will be taken in hand as soon as ever the war conditions permit. Dundee, too, will not improbably be the locale chosen for the new shipyard of the Ferro-Concrete Ship Construction Company, Ltd., recently formed for the express purpose of building reinforced concrete craft. This company is in negotiation with the Harbour Commissioners for a suitable site with a river frontage of about 400 feet, and it is expected that the site will be procured before long. At first, it is proposed to build comparatively small vessels, as in the circumstances it is wise, since the concrete ship (other than barge) has yet to feel its way as an engine-driven sea-going vessel. Finally, at Leith, Messrs. John Cran and Co. are understood to have secured a site for an additional yard in which to build ships of larger calibre.

NOTICE.

THE KATKIN (First Floor) Contains the Black Box.

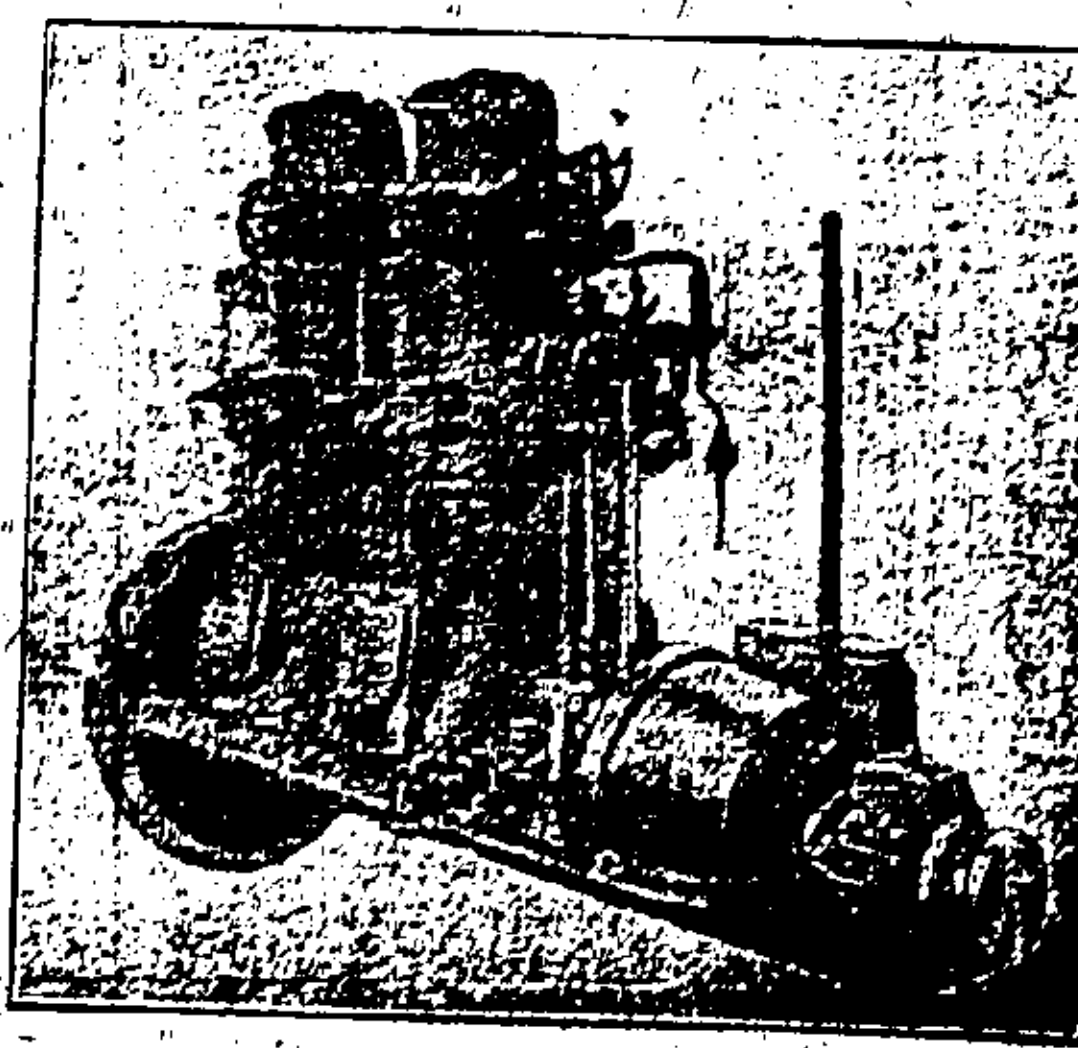
Hongkong, 29th November, 1917.

GRAND HOTEL

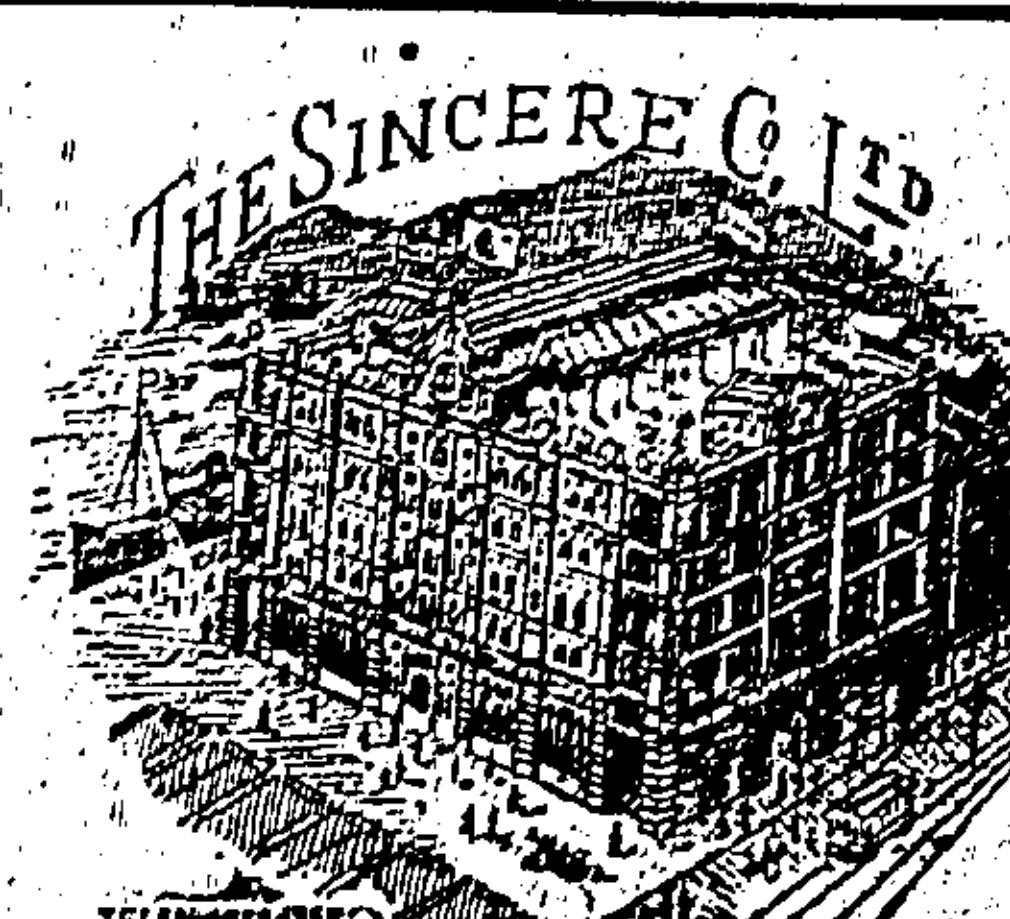
Coal for Japanese Bellmen

[illegible]

ANCHORED ON THE ROOF



Stocks kept



TEL. 138

FROM THE PULPIT.

The Law of the Battlement.

Notes of a sermon by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald at Union Church on Sunday morning:—

"When thou buildest a new house thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thy house if any man fall from thence."—Deut. 22/8.

An old house you have to take as you get it, but a new one of your own building expresses yourself, reflecting, with whatever limitations of cost and so forth, taste, intention, ideal. Your friends do not feel free to criticise it as they might your rented dwelling. Their suggestions must be offered tactfully—made if possible to seem to emanate from yourself. A man's own house is like his child, and if you don't happen to approve of it, it is seldom wise to say so. But there are usually regulations in the matter of housebuilding, imposed for the public good. My text is an ancient building bye-law embodying the spirit of consideration which is so marked in the Deuteronomic code. No doubt there were those who looked on it at the time as a piece of meddling interference; there are always plenty to raise that cry against any effort at preventive legislation. "Cannot I build my own house as I like?" Certainly, if you build it on a desert island, which is the proper place for people who make a speciality of doing just what they like. But there aren't enough desert islands to go round, so as things are if a man neglects to put a parapet round his roof he brings blood upon his house if a neighbour with a head less steady than his own falls from it, or, say, some venturesome youth, some heedless child. In a hot country where houses have flat roofs on which people sit by day and sleep at night, the battlement would seem so reasonable a requirement that legislation should not have been necessary. Perhaps, yet it was necessary, and neither you nor I need be surprised, knowing what we or our fellow-creatures are, unreasonable, conservative, selfish, set on having our own way. Did ever any improvement, however eminently advantageous, establish itself without determined opposition? Take the Plimsoll mark on our ships. It is a reminder of strenuous opposition, plus indifference, to a requirement now accepted as so right and necessary that we wonder it should ever have been disputed.

With a little imagination one might reconstruct a full-dress debate in an imaginary Jewish legislature when this law of the battlement was first proposed. Opponent No. 1 objected strongly to this fresh interference with the liberty of the subject. There had been far too much of that already, and he begged to move the rejection of the Bill. His second-wazed scornful about grand-motherly legislation. People who could not sit on walls without getting giddy, ought to keep away from them. We everybody else to be held in leading strings on account of a few weaklings? Man used to be men in the days when he was young, and he would rather see a broken neck or two now and again than be treated as though they were not capable of taking care of themselves. No. 3 professed to speak for the moderate-minded portion of the community—he was sure the large majority. The danger of unvalued roofs, said he, had been greatly exaggerated. This talk of bringing blood upon one's house was altogether extravagant. No sufficient cause had been shown for this ill-judged and pettifogging proposal, and as one whose motto was "live and let live," he must vote against it. No. 4 bore a mandate from the Jerusalem and Jericho Property Defence Association, whose members saw their legitimate interests unfairly threatened. The cost of building was going to be increased, and if these new-fangled houses became the fashion all the old houses would begin to fetch less rent. Improvements were all very well; the members of the Association would yield to none in their desire to facilitate them.

But this was a mere fad, for which no one would be the better. And so on. You have heard it all from infancy, last time in our local Legislative over the Obit Ordinance. However, here this old law is, and it seems strange now that the like of it should ever stir up contention.

Law is truly said to be made for the lawless. But much of it is rather for the thoughtless, and the inert, who will not discharge their social duties without compulsion. The Act known in England as the "Children's Charter," e.g., was largely of that nature. For instance, it made fireguards obligatory in rooms used by young children. Now, no living mother could possibly intend that her infant should be burned to death, but unfortunately there were thousands who would incur that risk whilst they ran out "just for a minute" to do a bit of shopping or gossip with a neighbour. So the law had to interfere, because deaths from that cause were of daily occurrence. Laws do much more than simply penalise offenders. They suggest to the unthinking. They express on the whole the general experience of what has been found salutary. They embody our better standards, and the average citizen feels no obligation to aim beyond them. What the law allows he considers himself free to do. The legislator is therefore our teacher, most influential of all teachers for the mass of men in important respects. The educational function of law and administration is of vast importance, and that is why some of us offered uncompromising opposition recently when our anti-gambling laws were partially suspended. It was the removal for a time of a portion of the battlement, and if any man fall for want of it, there is blood upon our house.

We have been speaking of the community, but the text, of course, flits its primary application in the home. There, of all places, the protecting parapet is in keeping. An Englishman's house is his castle, runs our common boast, and not even the King may enter without leave. Well, the chance of the King wanting to enter on any terms is small. But the risk of friend or child coming to harm is by no means small, unless care be taken to prevent it. The danger from outside violence is far less than from inside carelessness. Moses had no need to give a commandment as to bolts and bars to keep out burglars. We can be trusted to attend to that. The law reminds us of the thing liable to be neglected, the battlement around the roof.

Speaking of castles, did you ever see one which had not a parapet around the topmost wall, where in the old days armed sentries used to go their rounds, and ladies of the household take the evening air? Indeed the battlement is the mark of the style specially known as castellated in architecture. Today the humblest cottage on the hillside is a safer spot under modern government than were those frowning fortresses to their masters in times of old! And though the modest building makes no imposing feature in the landscape, if there be within it the fear of God and the love of Christ, it has an invisible bulwark, "as the mountains are round about Jerusalem," which no evil influence can overpass.

"When thou buildest a new house," let us think of a new home, established in love, with the Presence which was at Cana as the abiding guest. What hopes are in it, and centred on it? It has the very air of spring, and its future bathed in sunshine. Ill it is with the community which is destitute of sweet and peaceful home life, the human goal of all that gives preciousness to our earthly life. Old residents in this Colony say that the former days were far inferior to the present in this respect if no other. Thirty, forty years back, they say, there were few European homes in these settlements in the Far East, few European women, and scarce a child to look upon. The men had to live in bachelor messes, which have their place of course, but do not represent the mode of life which is natural and permanent. The change for the better

to-day, when family life is more freely possible, is said to be immense, and indeed must be so. Every new home is a source of strength and happiness, and whatever tends to restrict the number of such is to be deplored.

That is the deplorable point about the rack renting—one can call it nothing else—which prevails, and the great difficulty which young householders of moderate means find here in securing suitable house accommodation. It is not right that in a British Colony it should be so difficult for British Colonists to provide a home for wife and children.

To apply my text to the point, there is no battlement for our general social welfare, including in that expression contentment and cheerfulness as well as specialised "morals," like the increase of home life and its maintenance in reasonable security of tenure on terms proportionate to incomes. Housing questions are by no means confined to the slum districts. In modern cities they are often as urgent in the suburbs, and I know of no comparable question which can be of more moment. Anything which makes it unduly difficult for young people to found their own homes and bring up their families in health and comfort is an evil for which no dividend-getting in the passing generation can possibly compensate in the future. God meant us for home life, and only disaster comes from placing it at a disadvantage; it is the sure and divinely-ordered protection against untold evils. But when the home has been founded, under whatever restrictions, let it before all else be a place of sweetness and safety. If your home life as a people is wrong, everything if wrong, and there is no redemption. I do not believe that it is wrong, even although perhaps two-thirds of the over-abundant fiction of the day appears to find its interest in tales of domestic discord and unfaithfulness. These, you may observe, are nearly always about people who seem to have nothing particular to do and too much money to spend, so naturally things get in a tangle. But nine-tenths of the citizens of this world are, happily, provided with rational interests and useful occupation, and have neither time nor inclination to shape their mutual relations on the lines of degenerate fiction. We Britishers have been and are a decent and home-loving people, for which reason it has long been a puzzle to me that we should provide the market for prurient melodrama which the output of the publishing offices and the contents of libraries seems to suggest.

But in any case let our precious home life show more and more the spirit of this law of the battlement. The Children's Act, which I have already referred to, forbade well-meaning mothers to give their infants gin—it was high time, unfortunately. Few could be so ignorant and thoughtless, one must suppose, but short of such cases folly many are the stumbling-blocks placed in the way of these tender souls which the Creator commits to the charge of us parents. Are you giving your children all the lead you might, by teaching and still more by example? If they take after you will they be found in the future leading lives of self-control, godliness, Christian zeal and service?

None of us wants to bring blood upon our houses. We should not like to have it on our consciences that our young people or any who frequent us should contract any taint from what they see and hear beneath our roof; that in our company should come their introduction to lax living, zippant conversation, disregard of the Sabbath, indifference to good things, criticism of good people, selfishness, cynicism, unbelief. You would not wish it to be at your table the new-comers from the Homelands should be induced to break their abstinence pledges, to turn their backs on their early upbringing, to make light of what they had held sacred. My friends, if more thought were taken for prevention there would be less crying need for cure. The gospel which has produced the hospital and the asylum does not on that account neglect the

MARINE COURT.

Some Interesting Cases.

There were several cases before the Marine Magistrate, Commander O. W. Beckwith, R.N., this morning.

The Rule of the Road. The coxswain of a Yammati ferry launch was charged with failing to observe the rule of the road, during the evening of November 24.

It was stated by Sergeant Sutton that although he blew a short blast on the whistle of the police launch he was travelling in, the defendant held on to his course, with the result that the police boat had to go astern to avoid a collision. The defendant told him that he could not see the police launch because his passengers were crowded in front and obstructed his view.

His Worship imposed a fine of \$50 or two months' hard labour and ordered the man to be re-examined before being given back his certificate.

No Place to Go. The coxswain of another launch was charged with lying alongside the Ping On Wharf without permission.

An Indian watchman gave evidence, but the defendant's story was that he did not go to the wharf, but lay off and had a plank running on the Praya by which his passengers could disembark.

His Worship pointed out that sufficient room must be left between the piers for the owners to work their cargo boats.

Defendant replied that the piers were so close together that if that rule applied he would not be able to get along the Praya wall at all. He did not go near the Ping On pier. The watchman came and took some of the fish he had on board for themselves but the men who owned it snatched it back. It was because of that that he had been charged.

A fine of \$10 or 14 days' imprisonment was imposed.

Without Permission. A Chinese was charged with being on board the Amakusa Maru without permission.

It was stated that the man was found carrying the coat of an officer on board, and when questioned, admitted that he had no right to it or to be on board.

A fine of \$50 or two months' hard labour was imposed.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, D.S.P. (R.), state:—Musketry Course 1917-18. The undermentioned sections, warned to fire Part I on Sunday next, December 9, will attend at Headquarters Club at 5.30 p.m. for general instruction as follows:—

No. 1 and 2 Sections (No. 1 Platoon).—Thursday, December 6.

No. 3 Section (No. 2 Platoon).—Friday, December 7. Uniform optional. Musketry Handbooks must be brought.

The results of shooting by the Staff, Mounted Police and Maxim Gunners on 2nd instant are posted at Headquarters Club. No. 3 Company, Winter Uniform. Member of No. 3 Company, Ambulance and Baggers and Drummers requiring alteration or fresh issue of Winter Uniform are ordered to parade at Headquarters Club at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, December 6. A room will be set aside for changing purposes.

Recruits.

All recruits will parade on Mondays and Fridays at Central Station at 5.30 p.m. until passed out.

battlement around the roof. The Shepherd who goes after the hundredth stray is the same who safely folds the ninety and nine. "I guarded them," says the Lord Himself, in that last and tenderest prayer for His disciples. "Rescue work is good, it is Christ-like. Not less so is the quiet daily function of prevention. The one ought to do and the other not to leave undone." "When thou buildest a new house thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thy house if any man fall from thence."

KING LAUNCHES SHIP ON CLYDE.

Talk With Wounded Soldiers.

The King's second visit to the Clyde district since the beginning of the year opened at Greenock and Port Glasgow in the most favourable weather, and it will be continued in Glasgow itself over the greater part of the week.

His Majesty, in the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet, came to see for himself how the shipbuilding programme of his sea empire is progressing, and the operations, which he has witnessed to-day, have obviously given him profound satisfaction. It is hardly necessary to say that the reception accorded him was of the heartiest possible character, both in the streets and in the great workshops, where the deafening cheers frequently brought him to a halt and evoked the smiling response of a repeated salute.

In spite of apprehensions in certain quarters there was not a single unpleasant incident, either out of doors or in the sheds, and everywhere the crowds were dense and enthusiasm unrestrained as in 1915.

The King is living in his sloop train, where he is having his spartan meals at such times and places as his full programme allows, and this sailor-like simplicity is vastly appreciated by the people, who, themselves, have practised so much self-denial in the interest of the national cause.

His Majesty is putting in an eight hours' day every day this week, and is allowing neither himself nor his suite any more holiday-making.

This morning his train arrived at Greenock at 10 o'clock, and at 10.5 he was off in a fast motor car to see the building of standard ships and engines and boilers. Then he drove to another works to witness the hydraulic testing of boilers, next to a shipbuilding yard, where the plates are marked without the templates being lifted off the ships, and afterwards, where very important work is in progress which it would be indiscreet to particularise.

At one yard his Majesty launched a ship, to the accompaniment of thunderous cheers. Among a thousand spectators in the heat and the noise and the dirt of the typical shipyard, no one was more at his ease than the King. The sparks flew about from half a dozen clanging hammers, playing upon red-hot iron. The King alone of all the visiting party forbore to shade his eyes with his hand, and that the operation was not entirely free from danger was shown when one of the onlookers was actually hit by a small ingot.

It was impossible for the King to speak to all of the thousands of workpeople who greeted him, but his kindly attentions to the old, to those who had suffered some injury, and to the women doing unfamiliar, laborious work, gave as much popular pleasure as if he had shaken hands with the whole of Greenock and Port Glasgow.

His questions, which were innumerable and exhibited an acquaintance with some of the details of marine engineering, were as often addressed to old working men as to their employers, and he gripped cordially as many horny and toil-worn hands as hands that were gloved for the occasion.

At the Greenock Town Hall, where there was some municipal ceremony, he spontaneously turned to a number of wounded soldiers, who had been grouped with Red Cross nurses on a platform behind him, and said: "I hope you will soon recover from your wounds and be able to go home again."

It was just as simple and natural a human incident as the remark which had been addressed to the King himself by a young woman worker in one of the sheds a few minutes earlier:—

"I hope the Queen is quite well." And the one pleased the soldiers as much as the other had delighted the King.

At the reception at Port Glasgow Town Hall Provost Macfarlane informed the King that Port Glasgow had raised £35,000 for war funds, and there had not been a strike or a dispute to delay work for one single hour.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

The Legacy of 1864.

Lord Salisbury, who was at the head of the Government which ceded Heligoland to Germany, was more far-sighted when he characterised Prussia's robbery of the Danish maritime provinces of Schleswig-Holstein in 1864, for which he was not responsible, as "one of the most wanton and unblushing spoliation which history records." The Allies are to-day paying dearly for their supine and cowardly refusal to help Denmark then, for the war which broke out exactly fifty years later was directly traceable to that cause. Without robbing Denmark of Schleswig-Holstein in 1864, and in 1866 driving the Austrians out of Holstein, the predominant party of the German Empire would not to-day have been challenging British sea-power. In a most interesting and suggestive article in the *New Europe*, dated August 16, Mr. J. C. Van der Veer, the London editor of the *Telegraph*, tells the story of the way in which Prussia, who does not change her methods, manipulated the Danish War. It is too long to recapitulate here, but it furnishes one more count in the damning indictment of Prussian diplomacy from the time of Frederick, called the Great, down to the present day. "First," said Frederick, with genial candour, "I take what I can, thereafter I can always find some pretext to justify my actions." Bismarck's vision, so long ago as 1864, was of the German fleet riding in Kiel Harbour. Therefore he fastened an unjust quarrel upon Denmark and obtained his desire. The question now is, as Mr. Van der Veer suggests, are the Allies going to let Germany keep these "most wanton and unblushing spoliation"? Schleswig was as much "torn from" Denmark as Alsace-Lorraine was later torn from France, and there is much to be said for the argument that even fifty years after the event it should yet be restored. Lapse of time is no bar to criminal proceedings, and for criminals there is no Statute of Limitations.

THE WOMEN OF INDIA.

Lord Sydenham's Plea.

Lord Sydenham, presiding at a meeting of the Women's Indian Study Association held recently at the rooms of the National Indian Association, Cromwell Road, South Kensington, said that no man should take office in India without knowledge of essential facts, that he might understand the Indian points of view; such knowledge should be in the forefront of the training for the Civil Service. No regiment should go out to India without officers and men going through a full course of lectures on modes of life in India and the very attractive qualities of the people. No one with recent experience in India could fail to be aware of the important movement, gathering in force, in favour of education that would broaden the outlook of women and give them a fuller share in national life. The high school for girls in Bombay was an instance. One of the greatest needs was women doctors, and there were difficulties to be removed. In ancient days women in India were free from restrictions that had gradually been imposed. Heroic women had left their mark for good on Indian history.

It was not for the Government to force changes in social conditions, but it had to meet demands from the people which in time might bring about the complete emancipation of women. The changes should be gradual. In India any sudden break-up in social conditions should be avoided. Giving free scope to the influence of women would do much to promote the interests of India.

Miss Boyd, secretary (in England) for the Women's University Settlement, Bombay, gave a lecture on the women's movement and its possibilities. She said that since the missionaries made education part of their policy early in the 19th century progress had been made, but still there was the lamentable fact that only

TARIFF REFORM DISSENSIONS.

Lord Duncannon Resigns the Chairmanship.

Interest in the annual meeting of the Tariff Reform League, held at Manchester recently, centred almost wholly in a series of resolutions welcoming "with deep gratitude" the National party, and proposing that the league should merge itself in the new organisation.

In the end the opponents of this proposal triumphed, for, although the resolution of welcome was passed with a few dissentients, the suggestion that the league should merge in the National party was, by a large majority, referred back for further discussion by the branches, while the resolution to join forces was withdrawn.

The proceedings were lively throughout, and the merging proposal provoked a storm of opposition and drew a vigorous protest from Sir Joseph Lawrence.

"I have no objection to the new National party, and wish it God-speed," he said; "but, when you ask me to merge in it and march willy-nilly, hand in hand with it, I say, in good old Lancashire vernacular, 'I will see you damned first.'—(Cheers.)"

Another speaker, Major Hamilton, spoke strongly against the National Party, the formation of which he declared to be treason against such men as Mr. Bonar Law.

In view of the strong opposition, Mr. Sam Howard, of Rochdale, watered down his resolution for merging the two organisations into a declaration of the readiness of the Tariff Reform League "to co-operate with the National Party," and calling for the formation of a committee to give effect to this proposal.

General Page Croft, who has given his adherence to the National Party, denied the allegation that it was conceived by the Tariff Reform League. He denounced what he described as the political treachery of the existing parties, and predicted that, after the war, the great men of the Army and Navy would get rid of the rotten party things that had weakened the country in the past.

Sir Joseph Lawrence, following up his declaration in the vernacular, said he and others had decided to resign rather than work with Lord Duncannon and General Page Croft. His admiration for General Page Croft had been killed by his conduct—he had beaten up his supporters by giving lunch and tea to delegates. There was a storm of opposition at this statement, and General Page Croft said Sir Joseph knew that there had always been a lunch at their annual meetings.

Sir Joseph Lawrence said his point was that General Page Croft had sent out a letter, marked "Confidential," and some of those who received it had forwarded it to members of the executive.

The resolution, having been disposed of as stated, Lord Duncannon intimated his intention of resigning the chairmanship of the League as soon as someone could be found to take his place. He had already resigned his membership of the Unionist party, because he had been shocked by the atmosphere of politics in the House of Commons, and he was bound also to sever his connection with the Tariff Reform League.

TRAMWAY RETURNS.

The following is the approximate statement of the Hongkong Tramway Company's traffic receipts for the week ending December 1st, 1917:—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate for 48 weeks.
This Year:—	\$12,562	\$647,619
Last Year:—	12,174	636,437
Increase:—	388	
Decrease:—		38,877

one per cent. of Indian women could read. The great need was for Indian girls to take up the profession of medicine. It had been stated by an authority that an Indian woman in child-birth had less chance of life than a soldier on the battlefield.

